1	2	3	4
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	162	*
27.	Chandigarh	139	0.01
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	8	*
29.	Delhi	203	0.03
30.	Lakshadweep	01	*
31.	Pondicherry	899	0.11
32.	Chhattisgarh	197	0.08
33.	Jharkhand	218	0.01
34.	Uttaranchal	313	0.06
	TOTAL:	140481	14.42

* Less than 500.

Economic package for Cottage Industries

1654. PROF. M. M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any effective action plan or economic package for promotion and development of cottage and small scale industries in different parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present status of such industries; and

(d) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA):(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) For the promotion and development of Khadi and Village Industries sector, a special package was announced by the Government on 14.5.2001, which is under different phases of implementation. The package *inter-alia* provides for Insurance cover to Khadi artisans, option between rebate and Market Development Assistance (MDA), creation of packaging and design facilities, measures to promote marketing, brand building and cluster development, technology upgradation, quality control, marketing through publicity and advertisement etc.

(c) A Statement indicating the projects financed under the rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) of the KVIC to set up rural

industries including agro industries and the consequent generation of employment opportunities as on 31.3.2002 is enclosed. [Refer to the Statement appended to the answer to Unstarred Question 1653 (a) to (b)]. Under this Scheme, 14.42 lakhs jobs have been created and 1,40,481 projects (provisional) have been financed upto 31.3.2002.

(d) the Government through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is implementing the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) throughout the country for the development of cottage and small scale industries including agro and rural industries. Under this scheme, the KVIC provides marging money assistance at the rate of 25% of the project cost upto Rs. 10 lakhs and for the project above Rs. 10 lakhs and upto Rs. 25 lakhs, rate of margin money is 25% of Rs. 10 lakhs plus 10% on remaining cost of the project. In the case of SC/ST/OBC/Women/ Physically Handicapped/Ex-Servicemen and Minority Community beneficiary/institution and for hill border and tribal areas, North Eastern Region, Sikkim, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, the margin money grant is 30% of the project cost upto Rs. 10 lakhs but above this amount and upto Rs. 25 lakhs it is 10% of the remaining cost of the project. Under this scheme, the beneficiary's contribution is at least 10% of the project cost. In case of SC/ST and other weaker section, beneficiary's contribution is 5% of the project cost. This scheme is being implemented through Public Sector banks, Regional Rural Banks etc.

Steps to promote ARIs

1655. SHRI P. G.NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the steps taken by Government to promote agro and rural industries after emergence of WTO policies; and

(b) if so, the action plan worked out by Government to keep pace with the world market?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA): (a) and (b) With the emergence of World Trade Organisation (WTO) Policies, the competitiveness in terms of quality and prices of Khadi and Village Industries (KVI) products are the two important areas which deserve attention. The Government has announced a special package for KVI sector which *inter-alia* takes care of quality as well as marketing aspects of khadi and village industries products. In order to facilitate technological upgradation in KVI sector, the Government of